Address at the Centenary of St. Paul's Church Norwalk, Conn.

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1385

DESCRIPTION OF THE CUT.

It should be remembered that the engraving on the opposite page represents the OLD churchyard.

Disc No. 1, Gould Hoyt's sepulcher.
" " 2, Captain Benjamin Isaacs' tablet.
" " 3, Mrs. Ann Kemper's monument.
" " 4, The Cannon vault.
" " 5, The St. John vault.
" " 6, The Isaacs vault.
" " 7, The Belden vault.

The mound under the central tree (front) should stand close to the walk and at figure 4.

Discs 3 and 7 should be nearer together.

The Jarvis tomb is near the (former and present) chancel.

Between the fathers of the last century and their fathers fifty years before, there was a marked family resemblance. They were not of the smart and rattling order, perhaps, nevertheless their story is fresh and vigorous, and their example a wholesome one. They were earnest men. The Beldens and the Bettses and the Boutons, the Camps and the Cannons and the Churches, the Hoyts and the Isaacs and the Jarvises, the Nashes and the Reeds and the Warrens of 1779-90 were no negatives. Like the John Beldens and the Jonathan Camps and the William Jarvises of the previous generation they said and they did in no equivocal way; they believed in the church of which they were members; their creed was a positive quantity, and it might without any strain upon the truth be asserted, possibly of all of them, that they were endowed with the belief of every syllable of it. And they did earnest work, as we might expect such men would do. Their ancestors held a meeting in 1742* and determined, before the parish was six years old, to erect a new edifice —the one that was burned. And even the diction of their vote was energetic, "that said building be forthwith carried on." And it is creditable to the men of 1779 and a triumph of their energy and faith that, before the next twelve month had performed its abdication, they had held a meeting† and called a clergyman and resolved to build, and albeit so greatly reduced, had generously subscribed for, their third habitation in forty-three years for the Lord God of Hosts. It is a no mean commentary this. The men of '86, a century ago, did nobly, and it is right on this occasion to recollect what they did. We proceed to particularize concerning them; remarking that our notice of them constitutes, unavoidably, a string of sketches rather than a logically connected recital, and speaking first of the clergy of the past one hundred years.

Jeremiah Leaming, D. D.,‡ having in the orderings of God's providence vacated St. Paul's in 1779, it was for some four and one half years afterwards ministered to at intervals by the rector of the neighboring parish of St. John's, Stamford.§ This vener-

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*November 30th, at the house of Capt. Joseph Ketchum, on the Jarvis corner.

†October 27th, 1780, at the house of Thomas Belden, on the Governor Bissell corner.

‡Born in Middletown, Yale graduate, class of 1745; sailed for England, and there received Holy Orders in 1747; died September 15th, 1804, at the age of 87, and buried in New Haven.

§Ebenezer Dibble, D. D., oldest son of Wakefield Dibble, of Danbury; Yale graduate, class of 1734; degrees of A. M., and S. T. D., from Yale, degree of D. D. from Columbia College, 1793. Went in 1747 to England for Holy Orders. Is described—see Bolton's Westchester County, Vol. I, page 744—as a venerable man of dignified appearance, his long white locks flowing gracefully over his shoulders.

April 26, 1830, the Rev. Alexander H. Crosby* was invited to the rectorship, but declined.

The Rev. Henry S. Atwater† officiated from June 27 to December 19, 1830, and from the register which he kept it is noticeable that, with but one exception all of his marriages—he had several—were

church, and neighbor to the Brown, and Fitch Rogers, Jr., and Holly Homes. The Rogers family pew in the old St. John's, right prosperous mother to-day of several daughters, is still remembered. Dr. Sherwood's engaging pupil, Henry Rogers Winthrop, was Yale valedictorian, class of 1830, and his cousin, Edward, of New Haven, was valedictorian next year (1831) at Yale. It is an interesting fact that the cousins should, each in his respective class, have borne away the highest honors of Alma Mater, and it is testimony to their intellectual capabilities also because in both instances, the race for the distinction was a sharply contested one. The cousins had for competitors two thoroughly cultured and earnest classmates, brothers, from South Carolina.

Edward Winthrop, (valedictorian of 1831,) was son of Francis Bayard Winthrop, of New Haven His brother, Charles, and himself, were second cousins of Mrs. Dr. Sherwood and old members of the Norwalk school. Edward was afterward elected rector of St. Paul's church, Cincinnati, Ohio, and after that of St. Paul's, Norwalk, Ohio, and he being grandson of Moses and Sarah (Woolsey) Rogers was gr. gr. grandson of Ralph Isaacs. The Benjamin Edwards mentioned in "The Scheme," was from Long Island, and of the Yale class of 1829, and his discussion of the art of printing and the mariner's compass was probably his farewell to school, while his disputant, Stephen Reed, was a Greek student and belonged to the Reed family of West Norwalk. R. John Everitt was a young man who belonged to the institution and was baptized by Dr. Sherwood while under his care; and Edward Sellon, who pronounced the parting words, was the son of a clergyman of the English church; there were two brothers, Sellon, who attended Dr. Sherwood's school.

The connection of the Norwalk Rogerses and the Massachusetts Winthrops was through Nehemiah and Elizabeth (Fitch) Rogers' son Henry. His (Henry's) son, Dr. John Smith Rogers, married Gov. Thomas L. Winthrop's daughter, Augusta, sister of Robert C. Winthrop. John Smith, after whom Dr. John S. Rogers appears to have been named, was one of the king of Great Britain's American treasurers.

¶ In the beginning of Dr. Sherwood's rectorship St. Paul's numbered about one hundred communicants; and at its close the number was in the neighborhood of one hundred and sixty-four. Some forty communicants had died or removed during Dr. Sherwood's fourteen years care.

The Diocesan Convention of 1828 met in Norwalk, and in his report of that year (which was his last but one), the rector of St. Paul's mentions that he had attended two hundred and fourteen funerals. "Supposing then," he goes on to say, "the whole number of souls in the parish, including men, women, and children, to amount to seven hundred, which is thought a large calculation, we find that a number nearly equaling one-third of the whole congregation, has within the last twelve years been numbered with the dead. And if on this computation, which is certainly a reasonable one, we extend our views forward, it will be found that within the short space of thirty-six years, there will have died in this parish a number fully equal to the whole congregation at the commencement of this period." Dr. Sherwood's limitation of thirty-six years expired, in 1864, but extend the time sixteen years so as to include Dr. Mead's entire rectorship, and over 1,600 have been attended. The report of Dr. Sherwood concludes very properly with the words, "Teach us, O Lord, so to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

*Studied under the advice of the well-read and universally beloved Dr. Samuel Nichols (father of Rev. George Warner Nichols, now residing in St. Paul's parish), of Bedford, N. Y., and while naturally sedate, yet was prepossessing and engaging. "St. Paul's," says one who has fresh remembrance of him, "would have done well to have secured him." He became rector of St. John's church, Yonkers, and continued such eleven years.]

† Ambrose Todd, D.D., brought Mr. Atwater to Norwalk, and took him at once to the new home of the late Stephen Smith, on Newtown avenue, where he was cordially welcomed. His first administration of baptism in this parish was in Judge Smith's house, on the evening of Whit Sunday, 1830. Mr. Atwater spent the latter part of his life in the west.

before adjourning voted that Stephen Mott, Benjamin Isaacs, William J. Street and Stephen Smith be a committee empowered to call the Rev. William Cooper Mead, D. D.,* of Philadelphia; which call

stood as firmly, and was as plainly seen as a marble palace upon its foundations. The beauties of his sermon were beauties of proportion and adaptation—not artificial ornaments and flowers of speech. You were not carried off in a balloon of rhetoric, or on a cloud of rainbow beauties: but you had gone with him step by step, up the mountain side, you knew every foot of the ascent, and you could look where he pointed, far above the petty pursuits of life, to the pinnacles of faith and duty. How sublimely he celebrated the ordinances and sacraments of the church. If you have seen him by the sick bed of your dying children, as I have seen him beside mine in the very ante-chamber of death, stretching out his arms repeating the solemn service: 'We receive this child into the congregation of Christ's flock, and do sign her with the sign of the cross;' if you have clung to him for consolation when your wife and children, in the chamber of another dying child, were trembling and crying around you, and your own heart strings were breaking with grief; if you have gone with him, been led, sustained and supported by him to the grave of some dear one gone before you; if you have heard from him, 'I am the resurrection and the life.' 'Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust,' if you have followed him through such scenes, then cherish the memory of them in your hearts; you will never know the like again."

*Born in Greenwich, Conn, October 26, 1795; studied with Rev. Dr. Barry; ordained deacon by Bishop Croes in Christ's church, New Brunswick, N. J., January 6, 1824, and priest in 1825, by Bishop Hobart, of New York. He officiated in Christ church, Mamaroneck; was rector of Grace church, White Plains, 1824–6 and of Christ church, Reading, Penn., for a few months, and of Trinity church, Philadelphia, 1826–36, and of St. Paul's, Norwalk, from 1836 to 1879. He died suddenly on Thursday, July 17th, 1879, (the anniversary of the death in 1836 of his former valued friend and counsellor, Rt. Rev. William White) at a little after 5 o'clock in the afternoon. At a later hour the bell in St. Paul's tower tolled slowly his age, and as the tones were borne solemnly out upon the evening air, announced to the people that their aged rector and pastor and friend had departed. A meeting of the wardens and vestry was summoned, and suitable action taken. The church was draped with mourning and the funeral appointed for Wednesday of the following week. The Bishop of the diocese spent the Sunday intervening in the parish, and spake feelingly and eloquently to the bereaved flock. During the morning of Wednesday, July 23d, the remains were seen by the Sunday school of St. Paul's and by many friends and visitors, and the funeral took place in the church at two o'clock that afternoon. It was attended by the Bishop of the diocese with a large number of the clergy, and by parishioners and citizens in general. The committal office was read in the church and a few collects at the tomb.

"Thou shalt come to thy grave in a full age, like as a shock of corn cometh in its season."

Calendar lesson at evening prayer for July 17th.

Mrs. Dr. Mead, (Miss Maria Harlan, of Philadelphia) was an invalid during the latter portion of her life, and confined to the parsonage, and much of the time to her room. At a previous period and before her sickness, she was active, and especially among those who did not drink freely of the cup of life's comforts, and who keenly appreciated her delicate services of Christian sympathy and kindness. She died several years before her husband, in April, 1875, and is buried in the Mead family tomb, a few feet south of the church portals, but has by no means dropped out of the memory of those who knew concerning her goodness and usefulness. Two of Dr. Mead's daughters survive him, Mrs. Samuel Tiffany, of Newark, N. J., and Miss Jane Maria Mead, of Norwalk. Another daughter, the late Mrs. B. E. Staats, is buried in St. Paul's yard, and another, Mrs. Theodore Mead, is interred in Greenwich.

The subjoined is an extract from Dr. Mead's Twenty-Fifth Anniversary discourse, delivered in St. Paul's church on Sunday morning, July 7th, 1861, and as a reminder of the solemnity of his composition, and the strong sense of his writings, and the sound doctrine which rang out so clearly in his preaching, it will not, it is thought, be unacceptable to those to whom his memory, in relation to these particulars, is such a treasure. His text was

Hoyt,* the Rev. Frederick R. Sandford,† the Rev. J. B. Jennings,‡ and Rev. C. M. Selleck.§

The story of the laymen of the past is one which, like that of the clergy, deserves not only mentioning but treasuring. The picture of our ancestors of a century ago is a reproduction of a picture twenty-two hundred years older, when the walls of Jerusalem were in heaps of rubbish and all set to work, and every one lent a hand, and the cry went resolutely up: "Come and let us build." Their homes were in ruins, and their holy temple lay in the dust, but they proposed to repair the desolation, and all joined in the work and each applied himself to the part within reach. It was too soon to decide upon a final plan; the smoke had hardly cleared away from the burnt district; the prospect politically was gloomy; the blasts of war were heard in the land; but they could not remain without their church, and decided to put up a building 24x36 for temporary occupancy, some among them offering money, some material, some both, to help in its construction. Goold Hoyt was the first subscriber; then Esaias Bouton, and Samuel Belden, and Jonathan Camp, and Nathan Jarvis, and Ebenezer Church, and Thomas Belden, and Hezekiah Osborn, and John and Samuel Cannon, and Isaac Isaacs
Matthew Reed, and Isaac Isaacs, and a number besides these. Others of the parish contributed parts of the frame and covering of the building, girders, posts, rafters, studding and shingles: and still others lent of their skill in cutting, and strength in working, and time in carting. There were some special offerings: David Lambert gave the communion table, as Stephen St. John and Ebenezer Church and Thomas Fayerweather did the chancel and the pulpit in the former church; and Thomas Belden the brass hinges for the desk; and Jacob Jennings the hinges for the pulpit; and Eliakim Warren and David Nash their cash donations, in addition to their subscriptions for the church of 1786; while Captain

*Born in 1844 in New York city, and educated at Trinity School. He pursued his theological studies under the direction of his father, the well known Ralph Hoyt of former years. After his ordination he took charge of the parish at Tenefly, N. J., and then of Holy Trinity parish, Jersey City. He spent not quite one year in Norwalk; and died in Illinois, July 19, 1886.

†Yale graduate; Studied divinity at Berkeley; ordained to the Diaconate in 1883. He married a daughter of Mrs. Henry Bailey, of Norwalk, and is now rector of the parish at Warehouse Point, Conn.

‡Nashota graduate.

§Upon the decease, in 1879, of the Rev. William Cooper Mead, D. D. LL. D., the writer, who had been Dr. Mead's personal assistant since March, 1865, took temporary care of the parish, and was elected rector in Feb., 1881, in which office he served until his resignation at Easter, 1883.

his commentary* to his family, and was lay assistant in the little church which stood in the street a few furlongs northwest of the present St. Mark's, New Canaan, sent his portion also. And these same men, as soon as the plans for the new and permanent church could be matured, came at once to the front. The subscription roll for the edifice which this day recalls, amounted to the commendable sum of £1,095 11s 3d, pledged for building and for pews. John Cannon, and Thomas Belden together, subscribed £100 and over; Goold Hoyt, Ebenezer Church and Jonathan Camp, over £100; Isaac Isaacs, John Belden, Isaac Camp, David Nash, Eliakim Warren, Daniel Nash, Samuel White, Stephen Betts, Richard Camp, Matthew Reed, Nehemiah Hanford, over £200. Reuben Mott, Benjamin Marvin, Esaias Bouton, Nathan Jarvis, Peter White, Mrs. Ogilvie, Mr. Phillips,† Lemuel Brooks,‡ Paul Taylor, Nathaniel Street, John Cannon, Jr., the Messrs. Rogers, Hezekiah Jarvis, Hezekiah Belden, Samuel Belden, Jacob Jennings, Benjamin Isaacs, Stephen Kellogg and David Lambert, over £300; and among the others, Stephen Marvin,§ (whose laudable ambition led him to fell and hew and draw the first stick of timber for the first consecrated church, drawn in all probability from Mr. Marvin's splendid timber patch, known in earlier times as Indian Field Hill,‖ and on which tract a considerable portion of the timber in the parsonage to-day grew,) grandfather of Stephen and Merwin

Isaac Isaacs

officers were joined at "the rocks." Fire was opened upon the British who were massing near Grumman's Hill. The enemy had landed (some of them, seemingly, as early as the evening before,) in two divisions: A portion of them, under Tryon, at Fitch's Point, on the east side of the river, and the remainder, under General Garth, at "Old Well," on the west side of the river. The two wings came together, somewhat after nine o'clock, a. m., at Grumman's Hill, and Tryon at once dispatched a company to resist the Continentals and militia. The hostile forces met in France street; shots were exchanged, and although, according to Captain Stephen Betts' statement, Tryon was master of the field, yet a retreat was ordered, and by noon the invaders were on their way to Fitch's Point, and a little later to Long Island. It is a significant fact that no sooner had Tryon re-crossed the Sound than he was recalled by Sir Henry Clinton, to New York, where he apologized for his conduct at Norwalk, etc.

N. B.—General Parsons' non-arrival until the morning of the conflagration is disputed. It is claimed that he was here a day or two before the burning.

*The old Betts commentary is kept as companion-piece to the old Tryon chair.

†A descendant, it is probable, of Hon. Frederick Phillips, second lord of the manor of Phillipsborough, and founder of St. John's Church, Yonkers, New York, whose grandson, Frederick, was, nearly one hundred years since, proprietor of the Philipstown estate (opposite West Point), Putnam county, New York. This second Fredericks' daughter-in-law married, after the decease of her first husband, an Ogilvie. Mrs. Ogilvie gave somewhat over one hundred dollars, and Mr. Phillips about seventy-five dollars for the church of 1786.

‡Captain Lemuel Brooks lived at *the village*, so-called, somewhat below South Norwalk. He married a Raymond. His sister married Phineas Miller, M. D., a physician in early days in the place. A daughter of Dr. Miller, Miss Mary Ann Miller, of New Haven, crowned with years, still survives.

§Buried in the rear of St. Paul's church.

‖A little north of the line of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, and near the boundary line between Norwalk and Westport.

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To Henry Belden's two daughters, the estimable Margaret and Amelia, the St. Paul's of to-day is debtor. The keynote of their lives sounded clearly out at the close, and their marked devotion and beneficence are a hallowed "In Memoriam."*

Another early name is that of Nash. Nathan Nash was one of the first wardens of the parish. Micajah Nash was the grandfather of Dennis and of the Daniel Nash nearest our own day, and himself,

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The brass chancel rail, of high excellence, which, during the first year of the incumbency of the present rector, was made to take the place of the rail built in 1841, and re-laid, in 1867, was the donation of Mr. Charles E. St. John, in memory of his wife, Mrs. Susan (Sherry) St. John, daughter of Charles and Susan (St. John) Sherry, deceased.

Besides these, there is a Memorial Scholarship Fund, which now amounts to several hundred dollars, and which is named for a communicant of the parish, and beloved teacher in the Sunday school, whose life is not measured so much by the number of years he lived, as by "the good work, well done," which he fulfilled; the late Alfred Jackson.

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*Belding, (now Belden) is an ancient New England name. The original Norwalk Beldens were John and Samuel, sons of John, of Wethersfield. The date of their arrival in this place is uncertain, but they were here in 1673. John fought in the Indian War, was made sergeant, and, later, lieutenant, and was a "merchant," of Norwalk, in 1710. He married Ruth, daughter of Samuel Hayes, and sister of the Isaac Hayes, who married Elizabeth Sherwood, of Fairfield.

Neither John nor Samuel Belden seems to have had house lots assigned to them. When the first home lots were laid out they were not upon the spot. John died about 1712-13, leaving two sons, John, Jr. and Samuel, 2d., and a widow who afterwards married John Copp, the town clerk. Samuel, 1st., had landed possessions in different localities, but the inference is that he was unmarried. He left his house, lot, orchard, etc., to his "kinsman and nephew," Samuel "son of his deceased brother, John," and in the event of Samuel's death before reaching "twenty and one" years of age, everything was to go to his other nephew, John.

Samuel, 2d., was the future chairman of the first meeting, of which we have record, held in the parish; and his brother, John, who, in 1728, married a daughter of Captain John Hill, of Rhode Island, was the father of THOMAS BELDEN, who was born, in 1731, and was a bachelor, and justice of the peace, and church warden, and representative for twelve years in the General Assembly; and of HEZEKIAH, also a bachelor, and parish clerk from 1781 to 1788; and of SAMUEL, who was born in Norwalk, but lived in Wilton, and there aided the church, and married the sister of David Lambert, Jr., (the children of whom were Hezekiah, William, Samuel, and Thomas) and of JOHN, who, married Rebecca, daughter of John Bartlett, and whose children were *John, Jr.*, who was unmarried, and *Mary Esther*, who married William St. John, Sr., and *Isaac*, who married Esther Reed and *Amos*, who married an Isaacs and who removed to Putnam County, New York, and *Sarah*, who married Samuel Cannon, and *Henry*, who married a sister of Goold Hoyt.

Mrs. Mary Esther (Belden) St. John's children are referred to in the address, and also the children of Isaac Belden. Amos Belden had eleven children: (The last one living, Sarah, (Mrs. William Mitchell, now resides, at ninety years of age, in Texas,) and Henry Belden had one son, John, (brother to Margaret and Amelia), who died young.

Thomas Belden, warden, built the Belden vault, in the church yard.

The Norwalk Hayeses were the ancestors of John Lewis, of Washington, D. C., who was a successful Wall street operator, an author and one of the founders of the New York City Free Academy. In 1840 he gave ten thousand dollars to the schools of the town, in Westchester County, which bears his name, and was preparing to build a new St. Paul's church, Lewisboro, New York, when he was removed by death, on Sunday afternoon, October 1, 1871.

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vestryman, in 1854, was cousin, and the late James A. Hoyt, second cousin of the first Goold Hoyt.*

Ebenezer Church, Sr., was a marked man of the parish century just completed, as was his son, Ebenezer, who had evidently been carefully educated churchwise, and educated under the conviction that to be a thorough churchman one must first know. Ebenezer, Jr., was a reader, as were his three brothers, Josiah, Isaac and John, and his sister, Betsey, of commendable deeds. Our old people were not altogether ignorant as to old authors and authorities. There are volumes of very clever theology which are bethumbed, and worn, and for the contents of which their owners, such as Stephen Betts, for instance, and Hezekiah Jarvis, and this same Ebenezer Church, seem to have been thirsty.† These men, we repeat, read. Their belief was not a matter of liking; it was their judgment—their enlightened and consummate judgment that the truth lay in the creeds and articles of the church of which they were members; and no parish could be weak with such an element in it. So great was his reverence for the Word of God that it was the practice, with Josiah Church, to rise in his pew and remain standing while the scripture lessons were being read.

The Isaacs name covers quite a page of our history. Ralph Ralph
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* Dr. Richard S. Bryan, Jr., vestryman, in 1828, removed to Troy, New York, and was one of the most influential and successful practitioners, of the Homœopathic School, in Renesselaer County.

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‡ Died in 1883, in Springfield, Massachusetts, and buried in Norwalk.

§ The census of Connecticut, in 1756, was 128,212 whites; 3,587 colored; and of Norwalk, 2,956 whites; 94 colored.

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*The descent of whom appears to be as follows: Josiah Marvin, (chosen a vestryman, in 1754, in which capacity he served with such men as Jonathan Camp, and Nehemiah Rogers, and Micajah Nash, and Thomas Hanford, and David Tuttle,) was the son of Samuel, who was son of Matthew, Jr., who was son of Matthew, Sr., or the father of the Norwalk family, and one of the two fathers of the American family of that name. The original Marvins were two brothers, Reynold and Matthews, and one sister, Elizabeth. Matthew, brother of Reynolds and Elizabeth, was thirty-five years old when he came to this country, and fifty-one when he came to Norwalk. He went first to Hartford, of which place he was one of the settlers, and in which city he was a surveyor, residing on the corner of the old "Village" and "Front" streets. His son, Matthew, who was now twenty-four years old, accompanied his father to Norwalk: they occupied adjoining home-lots, the father close by the present house of H. M. Prowitt, Esq., and facing East avenue, and the son backing upon his father's lot, fronting the south, and bounded in that direction by the present street running west from East avenue, and just north of the Consolidated Railroad. This street was a part of the ancient mail-coach route between Stamford and Fairfield. The Marvins came from the same county as the Fitches, and father and son lived in Norwalk about the same length of time. Matthew, Sr., died somewhere between 1680 and 1790, it is thought about 1687, and his son died in 1691. Among Matthew, Sr's., brother Reinold's (or Reynold's) descendants are: Gen. Elisha Marvin, and Judges Richard P. and William Marvin, and Congressman Dudley Marvin; and from Matthew are traced the honored Norwalk, and Wilton, and Westport families of the Marvins. Matthew Marvin, Jr., had six children, one of whom, Sarah, married Thomas Betts, the ancestor of that branch of the family from which the late George W. Betts, Esq., and the venerable Norwalk sisters, Miss Juliette and Miss Harriet Betts descended, and the youngest child, Samuel, was the father of Josiah, the vestryman, in 1754. Josiah died about the time that the church was burned. He had six sons and four daughters. His sons were Daniel, William, Jared, John (who died in Nova Scotia), Josiah, Jr. (who died on Long Island), und Samuel (see Talcott's New York and New England Families.) Vestryman Josiah Marvin's aunt, Elizabeth, (Matthew, Jr's., daughter), married Joseph Platt, who has the remarkable record of General Assembly representative from Norwalk for *one-half a century*. The occupant of the office for the greatest number of years since the Revolution, was the late Benjamin Isaacs, who represented this town at the state capitol during thirteen sittings of the legislature; the same Benjamin Isaacs (St. Paul's parish clerk from 1815 to 1846), who so possessed the confidence of his fellow townsmen, that he held the office of town clerk during a period of *thirty years*.

Benjamin Isaacs

Matthew Marvin, Sr., had several children. Four were born abroad. The first one born in America was Abigail, who, on June or January 1st., 1657, married John Bouton, of Norwalk. John Bouton came to this country before he was twenty-one years old, in 1635, and went, after residing in Massachusetts, to Hartford, where he married and had a child or children. He removed from Hartford to Norwalk, in 1651, and, in 1657, married Abigail Marvin, as before stated. To them were born five children, the oldest of whom were sons, John, born Sept. 30, 1659, and Matthew, born Dec. 24, 1661. Matthew, after a time, removed to Danbury, and John remained in Norwalk, married, and had two sons, Jakin and Joseph. Jakin was twice married, had two children by his first wife, and two sons and several daughters by his second wife. His oldest son by his second wife was Esaias Bouton, made a vestryman, in 1792, and who was father of Nathan and Stephen Bouton, of Troy civil and ecclesiastical note and great-grandfather of one of Westport's highly respected residents, and for many years principal practicing physicians, George B. Bouton, M. D.

†He married Mary Reed, oldest daughter of John Reed, of south-western Norwalk. John Reed was an Englishman—one of Cromwell's officers. After residing in different portions of the colonies, he removed to Norwalk, in 1684, and purchased a farm at Five Mile River. His son-in-law, David Tuttle, (vestryman, in 1754), had three sons and four daughters.

Matthew Reed, St. Paul's vestryman, in 1782, and Matthew Reed, the New York city alderman and bank president, of some forty or fifty years ago, and also Mrs. Isaac Belden, and the Wilsons of Belden's Neck, and the Benedicts, and some of the Seymours of South Norwalk, were, and are, the descendants of Vestryman Tuttle's father-in-law, and Vestryman Eliakim Warrens gr. gr. grandfather, John Reed.

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The clerks of the parish since its organization, in 1737, have been: 1737–1741, no record; 1741–1758, William Jarvis; 1758–1780, no record; 1780–1789, Hezekiah Belden; 1789–1803, Goold Hoyt; 1803–1815, Jacob Osborn; 1815–1844, Benjamin Isaacs; 1845–6–7, Richard B. Isaacs; 1848–1855, Thomas B. Warner, Jr.,‡ 1856–1881, Charles T. Leonard; 1881, St. John Merrill.

It will be observed that there is a break in the records from 1758 to 1780. This middle of the eighteenth century was a period during which the colony of Connecticut, with its one hundred and thirty thousand souls,§ among whom were two or so thousand churchmen, was tasting hardship. "In another century Europe will be powerless to embarass us," taught one of that day and of these parts, but before

sound beyond: The William Jarvis Street house of pleasurable recollection: The Belden (John, Isaac, and Henry) houses: The Phillips (now VanBuren) ample domain on West avenue: The hospitable Jarvis and Bryant houses: "The James Brown mansion:" The Joseph St. John (afterward Lewis Mallory) place: The Grumman house, under the hill, called after its whilom owner: The James Cannon (now Mrs. Jonathan Camp) dwelling, not far from the tomb (so stated,) of some who fell in the France street action of "the battle of Norwalk;" The Isaac's house before alluded to, and the Gregory house mentioned on page fifty-seven. These all were reared before the present picturesque effect turning point in architecture had been reached, still were they goodly abodes; and abodes the careers of the inmates of which have much enriched Norwalk history.

*Dr. Richard S. Bryan, Jr., vestryman, in 1828, removed to Troy, New York, and was one of the most influential and successful practitioners, of the Homœopathic School, in Renesselaer County.

†See note next page.

‡Died in 1883, in Springfield, Massachusetts, and buried in Norwalk.

§The census of Connecticut, in 1756, was 128,212 whites; 3,587 colored; and of Norwalk, 2,956 whites; 94 colored.

White, Josiah Marvin,* Gideon Kellogg, Jonathan Camp, Nehemiah Rogers, Micajah Nash, Thomas Hanford, David Tuttle,† Edward Nash, Ebenezer Smith, Captain John Cannon,

*The descent of whom appears to be as follows: Josiah Marvin, (chosen a vestryman, in 1754, in which capacity he served with such men as Jonathan Camp, and Nehemiah Rogers, and Micajah Nash, and Thomas Hanford, and David Tuttle,) was the son of Samuel, who was son of Matthew, Jr., who was son of Matthew, Sr., or the father of the Norwalk family, and one of the two fathers of the American family of that name. The original Marvins were two brothers, Reynold and Matthews, and one sister, Elizabeth. Matthew, brother of Reynolds and Elizabeth, was thirty-five years old when he came to this country, and fifty-one when he came to Norwalk. He went first to Hartford, of which place he was one of the settlers, and in which city he was a surveyor, residing on the corner of the old "Village" and "Front" streets. His son, Matthew, who was now twenty-four years old, accompanied his father to Norwalk: they occupied adjoining home-lots, the father close by the present house of H. M. Prowitt, Esq., and facing East avenue, and the son backing upon his father's lot, fronting the south, and bounded in that direction by the present street running west from East avenue, and just north of the Consolidated Railroad. This street was a part of the ancient mail-coach route between Stamford and Fairfield. The Marvins came from the same county as the Fitches, and father and son lived in Norwalk about the same length of time. Matthew, Sr., died somewhere between 1680 and 1790, it is thought about 1687, and his son died in 1691. Among Matthew, Sr's., brother Reinold's (or Reynold's) descendants are: Gen. Elisha Marvin, and Judges Richard P. and William Marvin, and Congressman Dudley Marvin; and from Matthew are traced the honored Norwalk, and Wilton, and Westport families of the Marvins. Matthew Marvin, Jr., had six children, one of whom, Sarah, married Thomas Betts, the ancestor of that branch of the family from which the late George W. Betts, Esq., and the venerable Norwalk sisters, Miss Juliette and Miss Harriet Betts descended, and the youngest child, Samuel, was the father of Josiah, the vestryman, in 1754. Josiah died about the time that the church was burned. He had six sons and four daughters. His sons were Daniel, William, Jared, John (who died in Nova Scotia), Josiah, Jr. (who died on Long Island), und Samuel (see Talcott's New York and New England Families.) Vestryman Josiah Marvin's aunt, Elizabeth, (Matthew, Jr's., daughter), married Joseph Platt, who has the remarkable record of General Assembly representative from Norwalk for *one-half a century*. The occupant of the office for the greatest number of years since the Revolution, was the late Benjamin Isaacs, who represented this town at the state capitol during thirteen sittings of the legislature; the same Benjamin Isaacs (St. Paul's parish clerk from 1815 to 1846), who so possessed the confidence of his fellow townsmen, that he held the office of town clerk during a period of *thirty years*.

Benjamin Isaacs

Matthew Marvin, Sr., had several children. Four were born abroad. The first one born in America was Abigail, who, on June or January 1st., 1657, married John Bouton, of Norwalk. John Bouton came to this country before he was twenty-one years old, in 1635, and went, after residing in Massachusetts, to Hartford, where he married and had a child or children. He removed from Hartford to Norwalk, in 1651, and, in 1657, married Abigail Marvin, as before stated. To them were born five children, the oldest of whom were sons, John, born Sept. 30, 1659, and Matthew, born Dec. 24, 1661. Matthew, after a time, removed to Danbury, and John remained in Norwalk, married, and had two sons, Jakin and Joseph. Jakin was twice married, had two children by his first wife, and two sons and several daughters by his second wife. His oldest son by his second wife was Esaias Bouton, made a vestryman, in 1792, and who was father of Nathan and Stephen Bouton, of Troy civil and ecclesiastical note and great-grandfather of one of Westport's highly respected residents, and for many years principal practicing physicians, George B. Bouton, M. D.

†He married Mary Reed, oldest daughter of John Reed, of south-western Norwalk. John Reed was an Englishman—one of Cromwell's officers. After residing in different portions of the colonies, he removed to Norwalk, in 1684, and purchased a farm at Five Mile River. His son-in-law, David Tuttle, (vestryman, in 1754), had three sons and four daughters.

Matthew Reed, St. Paul's vestryman, in 1782, and Matthew Reed, the New York city alderman and bank president, of some forty or fifty years ago, and also Mrs. Isaac Belden, and the Wilsons of Belden's Neck, and the Benedicts, and some of the Seymours of South Norwalk, were, and are, the descendants of Vestryman Tuttle's father-in-law, and Vestryman Eliakim Warrens gr. gr. grandfather, John Reed.

Norwalk Hanfords, and whose ancestress, Eglin Hanford, came over in 1635, a widow, in the ship Planter, from Sudbury, in Suf-

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business life were characterized by strict honor and integrity, married, for his first wife, Miss Catherine Van Raust, and for his second wife a North Carolina lady, Miss Frances Moore; Nehemiah, the type of a gentleman, and another of the worthful and wealthy merchantmen of the metropolis, married Miss Catharine Bell, of the Provinces. To Elizabeth, who was unmarried, was apportioned landed property in various parts of Norwalk. Susanna married David Lambert, as has been noticed, and Esther became the wife of Archibald Gracie, of Scotland, but a resident of New York, and an old time business man of great enterprise, large benevolence, and high standing. It was with this daughter that Mrs. Rogers' ending years were spent, and in her abode the mother finally surrendered to the infirmities of age, and was gathered unto her fathers. She was fond of her native place, as before intimated, and her visits to it, during her city residence, are elsewhere alluded to.

Moses, third son of Nehemiah and Elizabeth Rogers, married Sarah Woolsey; and Sarah Woolsey's mother (Mrs. Benjamin Woolsey) was Esther, daughter of St. Paul's first warden, Ralph Isaacs. So that the quiet head stone which has for so many years stood in such a peaceful portion of St. Paul's Church yard, and is lettered Mary (Rumsey) Isaacs, marks the sleeping spot of the grandmother, by marriage, of a member of Trinity Corporation, St. John's, New Brunswick; and an old time vestryman of Trinity Church, New York; and a director of the old United States Bank; and great-grandparent of Hon. Samuel Miles Hopkins, of New York City, Albany and Washington, (a descendant of whom has now purchased, and is improving, a portion of the old Stamford Point House,) and of other prominent members of American society. Mrs. Col. William Paterson VanRensselaer, (Sarah Rogers) daughter-in-law of the "Patroon" Stephen VanRensselaer, whose manor stood on the Hudson, in the city of Albany, is one of her great-grandchildren. It may be recalled that Col. Wm. P. VanRensselaer occupied, several years since, the Wilson homestead, at Belden's Point, and more recently a point or island near Greenwich, on the Sound. From Ralph and Mary Isaacs descended the Hon. Ralph I. Ingersoll, United States Minister to Russia, and his son, Ex-Governor Charles R. Ingersoll, of New Haven, who married Virginia, a daughter of Commodore Francis H. Gregory, of the U. S. navy, and formerly of Norwalk.

Nehemiah Rogers is buried by the side of his father and mother. The tomb stones of the two parents read thus:

"Here lyes Buried
The Body of
JAMES ROGERS, ESQ.
Aged 58 years & 5 months
Died July ye 13th
1 7 3 3 "

"Here lies the
Body of Mrs.
FREELOVE ROGERS
Relict to Capt.
James Rogers Esq'r
who died Jan.
26th, 1739, in ye 46th
year of her age."

It is possible that Mrs. Freelove Rogers was Capt. Rogers' second wife.

Vestryman David Lambert's sister, Elizabeth, married Peter Lockwood, the great-grandfather of Miss Julia Abigail Lockwood, and her brothers, William B. E., and Colonel F. St. John Lockwood; and Peter and Elizabeth Lockwood were the parents of Lambert Lockwood, of Bridgeport, who married Elizabeth Roe, of New Jersey. Their son was the late Roe Lockwood, the New York publisher, and their grandson is the present George R. Lockwood, who has succeeded to his father.

A daughter of Lambert and Elizabeth (Roe) Lockwood married Frederick T. Peet, of the old Pearl street dry goods firm of Bostwick & Peet. Frederick T. Peet was senior warden of St. Ann's Church, Brooklyn, and Sunday school superintendent, also, under Doctor Cutler's rectorship. He did not live to see the new St. Ann's Church completed. His widow still survives, and resides on Columbia Heights, Brooklyn.

James Rogers 1st. and Sr., the grandfather of James, buried in Norwalk, was a man of wealth and position in New London, and at the court of the colony.

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business life were characterized by strict honor and integrity, married, for his first wife, Miss Catherine Van Raust, and for his second wife a North Carolina lady, Miss Frances Moore; Nehemiah, the type of a gentleman, and another of the worthful and wealthy merchantmen of the metropolis, married Miss Catharine Bell, of the Provinces. To Elizabeth, who was unmarried, was apportioned landed property in various parts of Norwalk. Susanna married David Lambert, as has been noticed, and Esther became the wife of Archibald Gracie, of Scotland, but a resident of New York, and an old time business man of great enterprise, large benevolence, and high standing. It was with this daughter that Mrs. Rogers' ending years were spent, and in her abode the mother finally surrendered to the infirmities of age, and was gathered unto her fathers. She was fond of her native place, as before intimated, and her visits to it, during her city residence, are elsewhere alluded to.

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devoted to this church, and here his family was brought up. His son practiced medicine in Norwalk many years ago, and became later a successful physician in Brooklyn, New York. From a volume entitled "New York and New England Families," which was published in Albany, New York, in 1883, we quote as follows: "Matthew Reed and wife were members of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Norwalk, of which, at that time, the Rev. Dr. Leaming was rector. It is to the honor of our ancestors in this parish that, although reduced by the destruction of their property, yet they rallied in a year's time and commenced anew for the Master." Matthew Reed's grave is to the right, not far from the front door of this church. James Fillio was elected to the vestry, in 1781, and John Saunders, in 1784, and Daniel Church and Samuel Hanford, Jr., in 1785; Jacob Selleck was the owner, on Carter street, New Canaan, of property near to what is now known as the Hoyt Brothers' nursery, and came from thence hither to church.

The vestrymen from 1786 to 1886, are Eliakim Warren, Samuel Hanford, 2nd., Captain Stephen Betts, Asa Hoyt, Esaias Bouton, Joseph Fitch, Samuel Bouton, James Beatty, Holmes Saunders, Paul Taylor, Josiah Thatcher, 2nd., Henry Belden, Jonathan Camp, 2nd., Samuel Cannon, Nathaniel J. Street, Dennis Nash, Isaac Church, Richard Camp, Jr., Ebenezer D. Hoyt, Stephen Kellogg, Eseck Kellogg, Lewis Taylor, Isaac Belden, William J. Street, LeGrand Cannon, Nathan Jarvis, Isaac Church, David St. John, Jr., Noah Nash, William Cornwall, Isaac Adams, Josiah Church, Abraham Camp, Jonathan Camp, Jr., Joseph St. John, Lemuel Camp, Ebenezer Church, Jr., Richard S. Bryan, Jr., Stephen Smith, Stephen B. St. John, John A. McLean, M. D., Stephen Mott, Charles Isaacs, William Nash, Joseph W. Hubbell, Asa E. Smith, William St. John, William Daskam, Daniel Nash, Samuel Church, John Partrick, William Maybury, John B. Starr, Moses Gregory, Samuel Jarvis, Thomas L. Peck, Gould D. Jennings, James Finney, Timothy T. Merwin, Carmi Lockwood, L. L. Beebe, Charles N. Clock, William C. Street, William K. James, George G. Bishop, L. M. Stevens, James M. Hoyt, Samuel Lynes, John Smith, Ira Ford, Thomas Warner, Jr., Allen Betts, David H. Webb, Davis Hatch, Winfield S. Hanford, Josiah Kellogg, Lemuel A. Austin, Edgar B. Hoyt, Samuel Lynes, M. D., Samuel E. Olmstead, Edward K. Lockwood, Alfred Jackson, James C. Newkirk, Theodore E. Smith, Charles F. Osborn, James W. Pinckney, George Ward Selleck, Asa Smith. LeGrand Jackson, Homer Merrill, William H. Smith, and Daniel C. Nash. A long, but honored roll.

conveying or had already conveyed "four thousand acres of land to the church. This land was granted to him, in 1752, by letters patent, from George II, king, and lay in the Oblong, so-called, in what was termed the undivided lands, on the confines of the colonies of Connecticut and New York, but which, through irregularity in the transfer, or something of that sort, has been lost to the church.*

Eliakim Warren, who, with his wife Phœbe and their three sons, Esaias, Nathan and Stephen, left us in 1798, was another of our old representatives. He was elected vestryman on Easter Monday, 1787, and filled the office until the spring of 1792, and was intrusted with the care of the society's interests in Middlesex, now Darien, and went from us, leaving the registry of beneficence behind him, to become the first senior warden,† and himself and wife two of the first three communicants of one of the grandest parishes in what was then the diocese of New York, but is to-day the diocese of Albany. Mrs. Eliakim Warren, who, in her girlhood, came to this sacred spot from the home just at the head of what is now Wilson Cove, commenced, in 1815, in Troy, a Saturday sewing school,

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*In Dr. Dibble's parochial register, see Bolton's history, it is thus recorded: "1758, May 12th, baptized Obadiah, slave of James Brown, of Salem. Several of Mr. Brown's slaves, viz., Cato, Lucas, Dyer and Tower Hill, now sleep side by side on the spot named after the last of these comrades.

James Brown, according to Bolton, was brother-in-law of Samuel Isaacs, of Norwalk, whose sons were Isaac Isaacs and Samuel Brown Isaacs. In the family bible of the latter is written: "My dear mother, Mary Isaacs, departed this life November 26th, 1801."

†Upon marble in St. Paul's Church, Troy, N. Y., are these inscriptions:

This Tablet is erected
by the vestry
in memory of
ELIAKIM WARREN,
Senior Warden of this Church
from its organization in 1804
until his death.
To his great zeal and munificence
This congregation is indebted,
under God,
for its origin and prosperity.
He died Sept. 4th.,
1 8 2 4,
aged 77 years
Mark the perfect man and behold the upright,
for the end of that man is peace.

This Tablet is erected
by the vestry
in memory of
PHEBE,
relict of Eliakim Warren.
She died Jan. 17th,
1 8 3 5,
aged 80 years.
A mother in Israel
For twenty years she supported and conducted a
Saturday Sewing School for the Children of the Poor.
The Blessings of him that was ready to perish
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The Blessings of him that was ready to perish
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from Winnipauk, and Isaac and Abraham Camp, from Silver Mine; and Asa Hoyt, lieutenant of the old guard from below Old Well.†

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and forests, our inlets and islands, our rivulets and rocks, the cove, the cliff, the glen. and "fruitful spring," unquestionably wooed them; and although the thunder-burst over "Canoe Hill" might have terrorized them, still the sleeping deep beyond "Mamachimons" beach was calculated to tranquilize them. They ranged our woods and paddled upon our waters, and turned our huge boulders into grain-grinding mortars; while it has been shown that there were among them some who were skillful, and many, perhaps the majority, who were disposed to be peaceful.* Let the day be tardy in arriving, when, by dropping the already too few aboriginal names bequeathed us—Winnepauke, Rhoton, Cachenoes and Mahackem, we ignobly discard all recognition of these primal lords of the soil, and thereby deaden a deserved memory of the past, as well as destroy a *veritable touch of the antique*, which last, is not the least of the charms which conjure this old plantation, namesake, in the days of Pemenate,† of the pensive-countenanced, conquered chieftain Naramake.

*There exists cause for believing, that with some exceptions, the Norwalk Indians were, as a class, singularly amiable.

†Pemenate was one of Naramake's partners at the time of the "Partrick purchase."

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†The following interesting schedule is here presented. It is true that "deeds, not names, are what tell;" but NAMES in this instance have a voice. Just THREE of the accompanying roll of sixty-five, remain, after the lapse of forty-seven years, as pew holders in St. Paul's Church to-day. It was the last rental of pews in the church of 1779, previous to its removal to make room for the erection of the new church.

SALE OF PEWS AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, APRIL, 2d,, 1839.

TERMS SIXTY DAYS.

Pew No. 1, —— BATES.
Pew No. 2, DR. MCLEAN.
Pew No. 3, MRS. MAYBURY.
Pew No. 4, WILLIAM DASKAM.
Pew No. 5, J. B. STARR.
Pew No. 6,
Pew No. 7, WILLIAM ST. JOHN.
Pew No. 8, Lewis O. WILSON.
Pew No. 9, IRA FORD.
Pew No. 10, STEPHEN MOTT.
Pew No. 11, WM. A. BARLOW.
Pew No. 12, MOSES GREGORY.
Pew No, 13, WILLIAM ST. JOHN.
Pew No. 14, BENJAMIN ISAACS.
Pew No. 15, WM. J. STREET.
Pew No. 16, ABBY HOYT,
Pew No. 17, MALTBY BETTS.
Pew No 18, JAMES FINNEY.
Pew No. 19, MR. CORNWALL.
Pew No. 20, SARAH JARVIS.
Pew No. 21, MR. CORNWALL.
Pew No. 22, CHARLOTTE ST. JOHN.
Pew No. 23, WILLIAM MALLORY.
Pew No. 24, MR. SHERRY.
Pew No. 25, ESTHER BELDEN.
Pew No. 26, MR. HUBBELL.
Pew No. 27, SAMUEL DASKAM.
Pew No. 28, WILLIAM K. JAMES.
Pew No. 29, ABEL BEEBE.
Pew No. 30, MARVIN RAYMOND.
Pew No. 31, BANKS SMITH.
Pew No. 32, MUNSON HOYT.
Pew No. 33, MRS BARNUM.
Pew No. 34, GOULD D. JENNINGS.
Pew No. 35, LEWIS TAYLOR.
Pew No. 36,
Pew No. 37,
Pew No. 38, MUNSON HOYT.
Pew No, 39,
Pew No. 40, ABRAHAM CAMP.
Pew No. 41, MR. BENNETT.
Pew No. 42, HENRY BENNETT.
Pew No. 43, WM. DASKAM.
Pew No. 44, RICHARD CAMP.
Pew No. 45, TALMADGE STEVENS.
Pew No. 46,
Pew No. 47, WILLIAM K. JAMES.
Pew No. 48, A. W. STREET.
Pew No. 49, CHARLES N. CLOCK.
Pew No. 50, GEORGE HOYT.
Pew No. 51, MR. MILLS
Pew No. 52, HENRY PARSONS.
Pew No. 53, JOHN PARTRICK.
Pew No. 54, JONATHAN CAMP.
Pew No. 55, ESECK KELLOGG.
Pew No. 56, RICHARD PENNOYER.
Pew No. 57,
Pew No. 58, JAMES SCRIBNER.
Pew No. 59,
Pew No. 60, ISRAEL LOCKWOOD.
Pew No. 61, EDWIN LOCKWOOD.
Pew No. 62, CHAS. VANDUZER,
Pew No. 63, FREDERICK JARVIS.
Pew No. 64, H. W. SMITH.
Pew No. 65, JAMES STEVENS.
Pew No. 66, CHARLES STEVENS.
Pew No. 67, LAWRENCE STEVENS.
Pew No. 68, MR ELWOOD.
Pew No. 69, LAWRENCE STEVENS.
Pew No. 70, MR. GRUMMAN.
Pew No. 71, N. JARVIS.
Pew No. 72, SAMUEL STREET.

Some of these, as may be seen, took two pews each, and three of them, viz: James Finney, Charles N. Clock, (vestryman forty-two years ago,) and Israel Lockwood, are occupants of pews in St. Paul's to-day. Mr. Finney was grandson of Isaac Camp; Mr. Clock came from Darien; and Mr. Lockwood from Greenwich. The former was active in Dr. Kemper's day.

These, with others who have been named, and several who have not perchance been named, helped make up the congregation which the observance to-day calls up.

The names of such as took two pews each, as referred to in foot note on the opposite page, are: William Daskam, William St. John, Mr. Cornwall, and Lawrence Stevens.

William Daskam was brother of Samuel, of Norwalk, and James, of Stamford. He married Ruah, daughter of David Boult, and built in Main street, near the south corner of the present Hoyt street, and but a short distance above the old Lockwood house, which stood in, and took up quite a portion of what is now the roadway. The stores at that time, on the west side of the street, extended, towards the north, about as far as the store of Messrs G. & S. H. Holmes, between which point and the Daskam residence was the dwelling of the widow Jabez Gregory, which, being at "The Bridge," and near "The Spring," and on "the principal street," was one of the best known places in Norwalk. The house, in shape and size, was somewhat like the Isaacs house and it was occupied by "grandmother Gregory" until she had rounded out a century of years. Two of William Daskam's children survive: Mrs. Judge Sidney B. Beardsley, of Bridgeport, and Miss Harriett F., of Norwalk.

WILLIAM ST. JOHN, of Pews Nos. 7 and 13, was son of William, Sr., and Mary Esther (Belden) St. John. The belief which has obtained in Norwalk is, that three Sensions (St. Johns) came at first to this land. One of this country's genealogists appears to disclaim this, affirming, "I have read too many records to tolerate" the belief, nevertheless, there was evidently a father and son (Matthias, Sr. and Jr.), in Norwalk, in 1655, and Dr. Hall, in his valuable compilation from the ancient records, mentions the name of Matthew, also, while it seems that there was a St. John in Dorchester, in 1634. William, of St. Paul's Church, married Esther, daughter of James and Rebecca (Goold) Cannon. His house was a fine old style structure, and stood at the lower end of High street. Other than Esther (Mrs. William St. John), James Cannon's children were Sarah (Mrs. Jonathan Fitch), Amelia (Mrs. Garrett Harson Newkirk) and Mary (Mrs. George Lockwood). The children of Mrs. Jonathan Fitch were Mrs. Stephen Raymond, and Mrs. James Mallory; and the children of Garrett H. Newkirk were Mrs. Jonathan Camp, Mrs. Reuben A. Williams, Margaret Bennett, Mrs. Adelaide Quigley, and the late James Newkirk; and the children of Mrs. George Lockwood were Sarah, Mary, and James, who is one of the solid men (financially), of Ohio; and the children of Mrs. William St. John were Mrs. Munson Hoyt, Mrs. Charles Sherry, Mrs. Francis Skiddy, Mrs. J. A. VanZandt, and William and Frederick St. John.

MRS. CHARLOTTE ST. JOHN, of Pew 22, was the second wife of Stephen Buckingham St. John, brother of William, of Pew 7. Stephen B. St. John's first wife was a daughter of John Cannon. His second wife, Charlotte (Bush) St. John, was the mother of Mrs. James A. Hoyt, who has succeeded to the ownership of the historic Grumman's Hill property.

MR. CORNWALL was another who rented two pews. Thomas, the father of William Cornwall, came from Middletown. His wife was a Miss Mary Beers, from Stratford. They lived near Mr. Thomas Benedict, Down Town, and had four sons, William, Grove, Josiah, and George. Grove and George took up their homes in Milford, and Josiah and William resided in Norwalk. Josiah married in this town, but died in earlier life.

William married Lucinda, daughter of Noah Nash, of Westport, and his children were Lorinda (Mrs. John B. Hunter), Mary Ann (Mrs. Samuel Gorham), Esther (Mrs. Eli K. Street), Eliza (Mrs. William D. Haight), Catharine (Mrs. Charles S. Lockwood), Sarah (Mrs. Charles C. Brooks), Thomas, William, John, Robert, and Louisa (Mrs. George F. Belden). Mrs. William Cornwall's uncle and aunt, Luke and Jemima Keeler, of Norwalk, removed, probably in the "Prairie Schooner" (a large traveling vehicle), to the West, and were among the founders of St. Paul's parish, in Norwalk, Ohio. The Cornwalls adhered to their church, and of William, at his death, Dr. Kemper said: "He was to me a brother, a counsellor, and a helper." His services as lay reader and chorister, were of no trifling importance to the parish; and albeit he has gone, and his old choir has disappeared, and other choirs have been formed, to be in their turn displaced, yet such ministrations are not lost forever. The blessings, which those who lead in our praises bequeath, are abiding.

LAWRENCE STEVENS was the last of the four, who in 1839, took two pews each. He was son of Ebenezer Stevens by his first wife. Before coming to Norwalk, Ebenezer Stevens resided in Bethel. His first wife was Miss Chloe Fairchild,

years later, by another, which had for its object the building of a new glebe house, or parsonage. On February 4th, 1806, Josiah

was brought in contact with those whose influence over her has been helpful and happy. Until Trinity Chapel, South Norwalk, was built, she was a regular attendant at St. Paul's. Through summer and winter she walked, neatly attired, and with prayer book wrapped in kerchief in hand, from her distant home to the parish church. She has now arrived at the age of eighty-five, and is not seen at service as often as of yore. She is alone in this land, as far as relatives are concerned; her husband lies in the church yard, and her son, whom she has not seen for about a half century, lives in Australia.

The curious will be pleased, perhaps, to find as supplemental to the schedule on page 56, what purports to be the FIRST pew schedule of the church of 1786. It bears date 1792, but it must be borne in mind that the church of 1786 was not completed at the time of its consecration, and was not permanently seated until after the passage, in October, 1790, of the resolution, "that the inside of the church should be finished by building a pulpit, pewing, and finishing the galleries, etc."

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Pew No. 6, ISAAC S. ISAACS.
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Pew No. 8, JOHN BELDEN.
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Pew No. 17, BARNABAS MARVIN.
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Pew No. 33, MICAJAH NASH.
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Pew No. 38, BENJA. ISAACS.
Pew No. 39, STEPHEN KELLOGG ‡ [p. 61]
Pew No. 40, SETH KEELER.
Pew No. 41, DAVID LAMBERT (gave it up.)
Pew No. 42, EDWARD WENTWORTH.
Pew No. 43, SAMUEL RAYMOND and MRS. NASH.
Pew No. 44, AARON ADAMS.
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Pew No. 46, ELIAKIM WARREN.
Pew No. 47, JOHN LOCKWOOD.§ [p. 62]
Pew No. 48, JOHN NASH.
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Pew No. 50, DANIEL ADAMS.
Pew No. 51, JAMES CROWLEY.
Pew No. 52, WILLIAM JELLIFF.
Pew No. 53, JOHN SAUNDERS, JR.
Pew No. 54, SEELEY SQUIRES.
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Pew No. 58, JOSIAH THATCHER, JR.
Pew No. 59, STEPHEN ABBOTT.
Pew No. 60, NATHAN WILSON.

These pews were *sold*, and the names, affixed to the numbers of the same, were the names of their *owners*.

Thomas Keeler, also, seems to be assigned to pew No. 50, and Abraham Hanford and son, to pew 43.

*The name of Jonathan Camp is one of the first names which appear upon St. Paul's parish records. It is believed that the family took its rise in France, and that three Brothers first came to this country, and settled, two in Connecticut (Milford and Norwalk,) and one in New Jersey. Jonathan, the founder of the Norwalk family, came hither from Milford, and purchased at once in Norwalk to the amount of nearly three thousand dollars, a large sum at that time. Himself and Ann, the forefather and mother, had four sons, viz.: Jonathan, Jr., Isaac, Abraham, and Richard. Jonathan, 2d, or Jr., was born in 1735, and married Mary Burwell, in 1759. From him descended Jonathan, 3d, born in 1768, and married, in 1792, to Hannah Bouton. Jonathan, 3d and Hannah were the parents of Jonathan, 4th—the late Jonathan—who was born in 1801, and who married Miss Mary Newkirk, a granddaugh-

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of an adjourned meeting, thirteen days thereafter, when, with Hezekiah Jarvis in the chair, a vote was taken to build a house "of

of St. Paul's. Mr. Charles Osborn's second wife was Miss Mary Ann White. There were several children by the second marriage. Jacob Osborn's two daughters were Maria and Eliza Ann. Maria married Eseck, son of Stephen and father of vestryman Josiah Kellogg, and his sisters, Mrs. Barlow and the two Mrs. Wheelers, of Saratoga County, New York, and of the former Mrs. Charles F. Osborn, and of Mrs. Horace Fitch, of New Haven. Eliza Ann Osborn married Jacob Dauchy, of Ridgefield, a clerk, many years ago, of Captain William Jarvis Street, of Norwalk. Stephen Kellogg's cousin's (Epenetus Kellogg,)daughter Anna, married Daniel James, and Daniel and Ann (Kellogg) James were the parents of the late William K. James, and of his sisters, Sally and Mary Esther, the latter of whom married Samuel Hubbell, of Wilton.

‡Held until September, 1815, when it was sold, with reservation of Mrs. Lockwood's right to sit in it "whenever she is able to attend church."

There were at least two men of unquestioned genius, in early days, in St. Paul's parish. Jacob Osborn, the town and parish clerk, was of singular inventive capacity; and Edward Nash, oldest brother of Micajah, the choister, constructed astronomical tables. His reckonings are said to have been surprisingly accurate.

JOSIAH THATCHER, JR., of Pew No. 58, married Ann Reed, sister of Mrs. Isaac Belden, and mother of Mrs. Uriah Seymour, of South Norwalk, and aunt of the late Mrs. Lewis O. Wilson.

There were thirty-nine persons who did duty in the old Norwalk "Guard" during the Revolutionary War, and among them were sixteen of the first pew holders of the church of 1786; their names are:

ISAAC ISAACS - - -	of pew 6	STEPHEN MARVIN - -	of pew 36
JOHN PLATT - - -	of pew 12	EDWARD WENTWORTH -	of pew 42
LIEUT. ASA HOYT - -	of pew 13	SAMUEL RAYMOND - -	of pew 43
CAPT. STEPHEN BETTS -	of pew 14	AARON ADAMS - - -	of pew 44
REUBEN MOTT - - -	of pew 16	JAMES CROWLEY - -	of pew 51
MATTHEW REED - -	of pew 18	JOHN SAUNDERS father and son - -	of pew 53
CAPT. LEMUEL BROOKS -	of pew 23	SEELEY SQUIRES - -	of pew 54
JACOB JENNINGS - -	of pew 34		

Commodore Cannon's name is also upon the record.

ISAAC CAMP, occupant of Pew No. 9, lived in the "Silver Mine" district, in a house which stood on the opposite side of the street from, and somewhat below, the Abraham Camp residence. His son Abraham, of St. Paul's church, is distinctly remembered to-day. He was the free mason, whose office, for so many years, it was, to carry the draped bible, square and compasses, at the burial of a brother, and whose simple and natural, but reverent demeanor, made, if possible, even more impressive, the order's solemn rite of burial. The descendants of Isaac and Abraham Camp retain their ancestor's spirit of devotion to the weal of this parish.

Isaac Camp's children were ELIZABETH, who married Jemmy James, and ISAAC, JR., who married in Darien, and SETH, who died young, and MARY, who married Benjamin Bishop, the father of George G. Bishop, Esq., and ANNA and HARRIET, who were unmarried, and ABRAHAM, the youngest, who married Mary, sister of the late David St. John, warden of St. Paul's church.

Abraham Camp's living children are, Semantha (Mrs. Andrew James,) and Isaac, who resides in the old home, and William, of Brooklyn, and Hannah whose home is with her brother Isaac. Said Isaac (Abraham's son) married a daughter of the late James Wiseman, a man of truth and sincerity.

RICHARD CAMP, of Pew No. 15, married a neice of Dr. Leaming. The house was on France street, and stood about where stands the Sherwood House of later times. A large family was here brought up. The oldest son, Richard, Jr., married Elizabeth Perry, as previously noted, and lived in one of the Norwalk homes which lay towards Winnipauk; a home—and the same might be said of many of the homes of his time—which was of convenient proximity to the farm, and where the fresh and healthy air stirred, and which was bathed, as God meant our homes should be bathed, in the life-giving sunshine. Lemuel, another son of Richard Camp, Sr., married Polly, daughter of Noah Nash, and lived at the upper end of France street. He died years ago,

the building committee, and had full direction of the work. This was the parsonage house* which gave way, in 1849, to the present home of the rector. And now, with the church in good condition

The father of the Norwalk Jenningses, Jacob, of Pew No. 34, was a Bostonian. One of his sisters married a Redfield, another, it is thought, a Dimon, and another a Marquand. Isaac Marquand, founder of the famed New York city jewelry house of that name, studied his art in this town (in a building which stood immediately north of the Connecticut hotel) under the direction of his uncle, Jacob Jennings. Mr. Jennings' brother, or brothers, settled in Southport.

The father of the Thomas Brady, of St. Paul's church, was James, who married Jacob Jennings' daughter Grace. James Brady's father was Thomas Brodie—the Brady's, formerly Brodies, are of Scotch descent—and Thomas Brodie's wife was a French lady, of the family name of Celeste.

Seth Jennings, son of Jacob and Grace, married a Miss Trowbridge. He died on the Island of St. Thomas, of yellow fever. Lucretia Jennings, daughter of Seth, married Conrad Newkirk.

In Pew No. 35 sat Captain Joshua Bouton, of old Bouton blood, a relative of Esaias and Samuel, and who was engaged in the East India trade, his home being what is now the property of Mrs. Elizabeth McLean. Mrs. Captain Bouton was a Miss Margaret McLean, an individual of sweetly-blended virtues of character. Their daughter, Harriett, afterward Mrs. Langdon Mott, was a member of St. Paul's church choir, and sang in the church with Isaac Adams, of Westport, (father of Charles, of Norwalk,) and William Cornwall, and Miss Ann Boult, and others. She appears to have been a lady of fine musical accomplishments, and her rendition of this portion of the church service, especially at festival seasons, earned for her highly flattering acknowledgments

The choir, in former times, was large, and almost filled the west gallery of the old church. Among Mrs. Mott's cotemporaries were Samuel Camp, and Jemmy James, and Eben and Charles Boult, and the two sisters Boult, and Miss Eliza Jennings.

An organ was first placed in the church about the year 1830, and a plate was put upon it memorizing the appropriation from the Betsey Hall fund, of one hundred dollars in aid of its purchase. The instrument was a small but pleasant-toned one, and was put in by Mr. Pierson, of New York. The line of St. Paul's church organists is as follows: Edward Street, Horace B. Gaylord, William A. Barlow, Edward Street, again, Miss Emily Street, Miss Susan Hubbell, Miss Mary Esther Camp, Mr. William M. Betts, Miss Mary L. Hoyt, Miss Alice Fitch, Miss Nettie Camp, Miss Ferry, Mr. Frederick H. Nash, Mr. Stephen Hatch, Mr. Edward Jackson, Miss Jennie Nash, and Messrs. Hatch and Jackson again.

The line of choristers from the consecration, in 1786, down to Dr. Mead's acceptance of the parish runs thus:

HEZEKIAH JARVIS,	JACOB BOULT,	JOSIAH CORNWALL,
ISAAC S. ISAACS,	CHARLES BOULT,	WILLIAM J. STREET,
HOLMES SAUNDERS,	WILLIAM CORNWALL,	JONATHAN CAMP, JR.,
BARNABAS MARVIN,	SAMUEL CAMP,	CHARLES FINNEY,
NOAH JARVIS,	HEZEKIAH BENNETT,	JAMES FINNEY,
DAVID BOULT,	GROVE CORNWALL,	ISRAEL LOCKWOOD,
WILLIAM BETTS,	ISAAC ADAMS,	REUBEN A. WILLIAMS,
JAMES JAMES,	DENNIS NASH,	HORACE B. GAYLORD,
NATHAN JARVIS,	URIAH TAYLOR,	WILLIAM A. BARLOW.

OBADIAH WRIGHT, of Pew No. 45, was from Westport. He was formerly the owner of the tract to the river, whereon the new Christ church now stands. His granddaughter is a member of Christ church parish, Westport.

The owner of Pew No. 46, Mr. Eliakim Warren, having removed to Troy, New York, sold it, on August 15th, 1801, to Jonathan Camp.

PETER JAMES, the owner of Pew No. 49, was the grandfather of William K. James. Daniel, the third son of Peter and Mercy James, was born in 1773, and married (January 18th, 1798,) Anna Kellogg. Their second child, William K., was born September 15th, 1800. He was one of Norwalk's substantial men, and a liberal son of the parish.

*See note page 65.

or sums as are applied to our names respectively, on the following terms or conditions, viz :

Payment shall be made in the following manner, one-fourth part at or before Easter Monday, one thousand eight hundred and seventeen, one-fourth part at or before Easter Monday, one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, one-fourth part at or before Easter Monday, one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, one-fourth part at or before Easter Monday one thousand eight hundred and twenty, with the lawful interest from Easter Monday one thousand eight hundred and sixteen on the whole amount of said subscription, and that annually, and the interest or income shall be applied to the support or maintenance of said rector or minister."

The Propagation Society's prayer books, which belonged to the former church, with the rector's marginal or interlined addition of successive sovereigns' names, in the prayers for rulers, are kept in the parsonage. The communion table and rail, with the desk which was used in the same church, now stand in the Sunday school room, and the old pulpit is preserved.

The west-end door of the church of 1786, a door fastened together with wrought nails, and hung with long iron hinges, and furnished with an old-fashioned door handle and latch, is preserved, folders, head piece and mouldings, almost intact.

An instrument for "pitching ye tune," and used as long ago as in the church of 1742, is now the property of Frederick H. Nash, a descendant of Dennis Wright and of Micajah Nash, choristers of that day.

The following is one of the provisions of a will dated Norwalk, November 23d, 1761. Isaac Isaacs, son of Ralph, bequeaths "unto St. Paul's church, in said Norwalk, the sum of fifty pounds, New York money, to be laid out in plate for the use of the communion, for ever, in said church, and my name to be put upon the plate." Witnessed by Jeremiah Leaming, John Belden, and Joseph Hitchcock. The fund has disappeared, and further facts concerning it cannot be obtained.

St. Mark's parish New Canaan, is St. Paul's oldest daughter. It was incorporated in 1790. St. Matthew's, Wilton, is next oldest, it having been organized, in 1802; Christ church, Westport, (1834) follows next; then HolyTrinity, Westport, (1860); and Trinity, South Norwalk, is youngest daughter.

St. Paul's church, Norwalk, Ohio, was organized, in 1820, with eight communicants—FIVE of whom were from St. Paul's parish, Norwalk, Connecticut: These were Luke Keeler and Jemima, his wife; John Keeler and his wife; and Ruth Boult. Luke Keeler, senior warden of St. Paul's, Norwalk, Ohio, from its incorporation until his death, in 1859, was the son of Phineas Keeler and Mary Camp. Mary Camp was born December 5th, 1748, and was daughter of the Jonathan Camp, of that date. Norwalk, Ohio, is the namesake of Norwalk, Connecticut; and the St. Paul's of the former is not only a namesake, but may almost be said to be a daughter of the St. Paul's, of the latter.

During the incumbencies of the brothers, Caner, the parish numbered one hundred families.

There were one hundred and seventy communicants belonging to the parish at the commencement of the Revolutionary War.

After the withdrawal of the New Canaan and Wilton families, St. Paul's still numbered one hundred and twenty households.

There were two hundred and twenty-four communicants in the parish when Dr. Kemper came to it. Nineteen communicants were added during Rev. Mr. Richmond's charge.

The circular window work, in the church of 1786, was made by Daniel Nash, the grandfather of Messrs. Edward and Andrew Nash, of Westport.

Lovers of old narrations will excuse ,perhaps, thisdesulory recital of parish memorabilia.

Two or three conditions are appended, after which some of the names and figures are: Ebenezer D. Hoyt, $700; Jonathan Camp, $600; Samuel and LeGrand Cannon, $600; Daniel Nash, $550; Daniel Nash, Jr., $500; Henry Belden, $500; Isaac Belden, $500; Esaias Bouton, $300; Josiah Church, $300; Paul Taylor, $300; Richard Camp, $250; Nathaniel J. Street and William J. Street, $250; Abraham Camp and Thomas L. Camp, $240; Eseck Kellogg and Ebenezer Church, $325; Hezekiah Jarvis and Nathan Jarvis, Jr., and Isaac Church, $290; forty-one others in different amounts, $1,775. Total, $7,980.

The fact and the figures speak; and this accomplished, the next agitation was that of the school question, the outcome of which was the construction, in 1821, of a parish school house. It was built by a stock company and upon the church property. The shares were in number one hundred, and their value twenty dollars each. Samuel Cannon subscribed for ten shares; Henry Belden, ten shares; William J. Street, for ten shares; Daniel Nash, Jr., ten shares; Josiah Church, ten shares; Daniel Nash, five shares; Eseck Kellog, five shares; Nathan Jarvis, five shares; Jonathan Camp, five shares; Isaac Belden, five shares; Richard Camp, three shares; Jesse Curtis, three shares; Dennis Nash, two shares; Joseph Platt, two shares; Abraham Camp, two shares; Benjamin Isaacs, two shares; and Rev. Reuben Sherwood, the balance, eleven shares.

The building cost $1,375, and a report to that effect was made to the shareholders at a meeting, held February 5th, 1822, and a call for the amount, being thirteen and seventy-five one hundredths dollars per share, demanded: all of which was upon motion of Mr. Eseck Kellogg accepted and granted. The building was used for day and Sunday school purposes until 1844, when it was sold and removed, and the matter closed up by the receiving, in April of that year, a note for $456.75, and the sale of the academy bell for $40.

On June 15th, 1818, a number of the members of the parish met at the house of E. D. Hoyt, Esq., and adopted the constitution of what was termed "The Norwalk Episcopal Society for the promotion of Christian knowledge," which had for its object "the establishment of a society's library, the obtaining and as far as practicable the gratuitous distribution of the Bible, Book of Common Prayer and religious tracts. The constitution had fifty-seven signers, including the Rev. Reuben Sherwood, in all probability the leading spirit in the matter, and Hezekiah and Nathan and William Jarvis, and William J. and Edward Street, and Jonathan Camp, Sr., and Jr., and LeGrand Cannon, and Isaac and Henry Belden. and John and Charles Isaacs, and Eben and Edwin Hoyt, and Ebenezer Church,

1st., and David St. John, Jr., and Eseck Kellogg, and William Cornwall, and Margaret and Esther Mary Belden, and Rebecca Cannon, and Betsey Church, and Esther Street, and Lucretia Newkirk, and Mary E. St. John. Meetings were regularly held for several years, and quite a sum of money received and disbursed. The final meeting, of which we have any minutes, was the annual meeting of October 29th, 1824, at which time William J. Street was elected vice-president, and E. H. Street, secretary, and E. Hoyt, treasurer, and William K. James, librarian; while Jonathan Camp and Eseck Kellogg and David St. John were chosen collectors. This was the foundation, at least in modern times, of our present parish library.* The last subscription paper which can with any propriety be claimed as ancient, and this for the single reason that it holds two names which were on the subscription rolls of 1821 and 1816, and one of them was on the subscription of 1792, is dated forty-seven years ago this month, and is the subscription list for this present edifice of the parish. The two names to which reference is made are tho e of Jonathan Camp, Sr., and Benjamin Isaacs, both of whom lived to a good age, but neither of them long enough, thank God, to unlearn the glorious old time lesson of generosity, but together gave for this calm and beautiful house of prayer the sum of $600.†

There have been legacies left to the parish, the incomes from which are helpful to it; and one bequeathment has been made from which those who come after us will derive the benefit. The corner stone, a solid block, for the stone church in which, divine providence so ordering and permitting, the centenary of 1986 will be held, is even now laid.‡ Other records may be lost or obliterated, but such, never, whilst immortality endures.

The report which summarizes the accomplishments of a century which is completed, must of necessity embrace performances with whicn all are more or less familiar, and these consequently need no detailed explanation. The corner-stone of this fifth parish church was laid in 1840, and the church was consecrated by the Rt. Rev. Benjamin T. Onderdonk, in 1841.

A new parsonage was built in 1849, and in 1854 a new organ was procured. The sum of $1,125 was paid for the site of the new Trinity Chapel, South Norwalk, the corner-stone of which was laid

*This library, in 1797, numbered sixteen volumes.

†The subscription paper for the new church (of 1840) was put into the hands of Messrs David St. John, Jr., S. F. Mills, Jonathan Camp, Jr., Asa E. Smith, and William Atwill, committee. Before this committee was appointed, Mrs. Sarah MacGregor, of Main street, had contributed $400.

‡The legacy of the late William K. James.

The Rev. Henry Caner, of Fairfield. had evidently officiated in Norwalk before the organization of the parish, in 1737. A petition, with several hundred signatures, was, in 1738, addressed to the General Assembly, by the churchmen of Connecticut. To this paper there were forty-two Norwalk signers; which number probably embraced *all* the male members, over sixteen years of age, of the church of England, in this town. The names are these:

Joseph Hitchcock,
Joseph Lockwood.
Isaac Brown,
Ralph Isaacs,
Jonathan Camp,
Nathaniel Fitch,
Lindle Fitch,
James Betts,
John Williams,
Nathan Smith,
Hugh Stone,
William Pearson,
Nathan Olmstead,
Anthony Beers,
Edward Nash,
Nathaniel Hayes,
James Hayes,
John Jeffeck, (?)
Joseph Ketchum,
Haynes Hanford,
Joseph Hitchcock, Jr.,
Joseph Ketchum, Jr.,
Nathan Nash, Sr.,
Leroy Sanders,
Samuel Jarvis,
Samuel Jarvis, Jr.,
Jonathan Atherton,
John Sherwood,
John Beers,
John Beers, Jr.,
Andrew Mills,
Nathan Burrell,
William Mills,
John Banks,
Micajah Nash,
Thomas Jelliff,
Richard Partrick,
John Partrick,
Benjamin Keeler,
Ephriam Lockwood,
David Whelply,
David Kellogg,

At a parish meeting, held October 7th, 1784, Thomas Belden, moderator, the following action was taken :

"Voted, that a petition be prepared to the Honorable General Assembly, at their session of instant October praying some relief for the loss of the Church. Also,

Voted, that Mr. John Saunders be the society's agent for the above purpose."

The meeting's appointee was thus accredited: "This certifies that the within named, John Saunders, was appointed agent, by the Episcopal Society, in Norwalk, at a legal meeting, convened on 7th of October, 1784, for the above and foregoing purpose."

Certified by

HEZEKIAH BELDEN,

Society's Clerk.

ADDITIONAL PARISH NOTES.

The Rev. Henry Caner visited Norwalk, as missionary, as early, evidently, as 1729, and divine service was performed probably at private houses or, possibly, where a parish meeting was held in later times, at "ye old school house."

Let it be borne in mind that what are now "the green" and the parsonage and church yards and grounds, was, in 1737, a tract of "common or undivided lands," called Mill-Plain, the upper portion of which, the precise site of the present church and its rear yard, was used for a public sheep-fold. The Connecticut Turnpike had not been opened, although a street ran from north to south across the plain, on the eastern side of which, and about where is located the recent Flavius Clark purchase, were, it is believed, the house, garden, and grounds of Lieutenant William Lees. The original grant of land, 1733–4, to the Professors of the Church of England, from the proprietors of the Norwalk Common Lands, was one-quarter acre on 'ye plain before Lieutenant Lees' door," and Joseph Platt and John Marvin were constituted a committee to lay out the same. In the extreme north-western angle of Officer Lees' dooryard stood a rock, and a point sixty-six feet west, bearing south, from that rock, was the established north-east corner of the future St. Paul's territory. From this point, marked by a "heap of stones," the line ran along the street, "south and westerly," two hundred and one feet, which at that day formed the church frontage. From the south-east point the line took a somewhat north-westerly direction for about fifty-seven feet; thence an easterly course "nine rods and eleven feet," thence north-westerly "two rods and a half, where is erected a heap of stones for ye north-west corner" Within these limits was the proprietors' grant, as marked out by their committee, but a mere paper grant until the day before Christmas, 1736, when at the instigation of Ralph Isaacs, the lot was surveyed, and preparations for its occupancy began. During the next few months,(we have now reached the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of these events), the parish was organized, and a small church building, which was afterward converted into a parsonage, was erected upon the extreme northern or north-eastern part of this grant. Here the Rev. Henry Caner came, weekly, from Fairfield, and officiated. His brother Richard, who succeeded him, was the first settled rector of the parish, and, while he was at St. Paul's, action looking to an addition to the church grounds was taken. It was but a short time

before a second church was built, more toward the south, and in an enlarged lot. This was the church which was burned, in 1779.

Ralph Isaacs, who was one of its first two elected wardens may justly be denominated a founder of St. Paul's parish. He bought of Benjamin and Esther Lines, of Fairfield, some six acres, between the present properties of Frederick T. Betts and Mrs. James A. Hoyt, and this was the home of the parents of the Norwalk Isaacses. Several of our fathers, Isaac Hayes, Goold Hoyt, John Cannon, and Colonel Thomas Fitch, went to Fairfield for their wives. Ralph Isaacs did the same. He married Miss Mary Rumsey, of the latter place, in 1725. He had four sons, Samuel, Isaac, Benjamin, and Ralph, and four daughters, Mary, Esther, Sarah, and Isaac. His oldest son, Samuel, married into one of Norwalk's early families, that of James Brown, Esq. Samuel Isaacs and Mary Brown were the parents of Isaac Isaacs and Samuel Brown Isaacs, of extensive "rights, titles and interests" in Westchester County, New York; the ancient home of whom, in that county, a home where Washington and his staff were entertained, is, says Bolton, indicated to-day by the door step, which is yet in its place, and by the famous pear tree, nearly two hundred years old, which is still standing and still annually in bearing. The Mary Isaacs referred to in foot note, page fifty-two, was the mother of these brothers, and the family name is one of high respectability.

Grace Isaacs

The "Isaacs House" which was recently taken down, was built by the father for his sixth born, Benjamin. The story of the home is this: "On the sixteenth day of January, 1750-1, Ralph Issaacs bought of John Seymour, of Norwalk, the land which is now covered by the Opera house and adjoining stores, post-office, railway station, bank, Hour building, pharmacy, Masonic temple, and private residence and grounds, five acres and thirty-four poles for a sum equal to about six hundred dollars. The eastern boundary of the property was the 'highway by harbor,' the northern the 'country road,' the southern the 'homelot land of Captain Samuel Keeler,' (Captain Keeler was father-in-law of Charles Hoyt's sister, Mrs. Joseph Keeler), and the western, the 'land under improvement by James Brown.'" Mr. Isaacs added to the area by the purchase, March 12th, 1752, from Joseph Simpson, of New York, of one and three quarters acres, price $100. This extended his domain as far as to West avenue, with the exception of a plot near the northwestern corner, which was owned by James Brown. A building, the late

Browns were early in the ancient Stamford, Lincoln, and they were also of no little repute. Their monuments still speak of their fame." Mr. Brown was an attorney of Norwalk, and a conspicuous mover, in 1737, in parish affairs. His father (James), who was "admitted an inhabitant" of Norwalk, in about 1685, was a pioneer New England settler. He had four sons, Elisha, Isaac, John and, James, and at least one daughter, Ruth. James, the lawyer, married a New Jersey lady, and his residence is designated by him in an old document, as "my mansion house in Norwalk." He had seven children. He was one of the first proprietors of Ridgefield, and was a house-and-land-owner in the colonies of Connecticut and New York. With William Smith,* of New York, he purchased about eleven thousand acres in the latter state. His daughter Mary, married Samuel, son of Ralph Isaacs, and his eldest son, James, born in Norwalk, in 1720, moved to the State of New York, where he was an ardent friend of the church, and gave to it about one hundred acres of land. James Brown, the settler, died, somewhere near 1709; James, 2d., died, in 1769; James, 3d., died February 19th, 1786, about five months before the church of 1786 was consecrated.

There have been a number of St. Paul's members who have borne the name of HOYT. It is one of the very oldest family names in the land. Simon Hoyt landed in Massachusetts as early as 1628–9. Remaining some few years in the eastern portion of the colony, he came to Fairfield somewhere near 1646. There was, in the Seventeenth Century, a small inner island, about five miles east of the Norwalk Islands, which was called "Hoits Island." He was its owner. It is stated that he left Fairfield for Stamford about 1650, although Huntington claims him as a 1642 Stamford pioneer. There was a Thomas Hyoute in Stamford, in 1651. (There is ground for believing that Hoyt and Hyatt were originally the same family name.) Thomas Hyoute—Hyat—Hoyt, died, in 1651, and Simon, September 1st, 1657. Walter, the first Norwalk Hoyt, was Simon's son, probably, and came to Norwalk, from the same town from which Simon, at or near the same time, went to Fairfield. He was an ancestor not without a record. His homelot bordered upon the ancient road to Fairfield, and, in about 1671, he was one of the nine largest land owners in town. He was deputy, in 1667,

*William Smith, who was lawyer James Brown's partner in this transaction, is supposed to have been the last century's noted New York City lawyer of that name and who subsequently was Chief Justice in the Canadian provinces.

Mr. Stephen St. John belonged to a Norwalk family of past and present repute. He was a business man of the town, and his life-day was a protracted one. He died suddenly, upon the grounds of his brother-in-law, Isaac Scudder Isaacs. Mrs. St. John was sister (so it is supposed), of Captain Hall Fitch, a resident of Norwalk, and later of Troy, New York, and aunt to Mrs. Albert P. Heartt, of the Philip Heartt family of the latter city.* Mrs. Angenette Hall (daughter of Edward; grandson of Governor Fitch, of Norwalk, and wife of Daniel Hall, of Troy), was second cousin of Mrs. St. John. Mr. and Mrs. St. John had two daughters, Henrietta and Julia Ann. Henrietta married and removed to Troy. Julia Ann was the first Mrs. Horace Gibbs, of Norwalk. John Cannon, Jr., of St. Paul's, married Sarah, (sister of Stephen) St. John, who was the mother of Antoinette (Mrs. Senator Betts) and her sisters Sarah, Harriett and Esther Mary, and their

*This city, seated advantageously at the head of navigation on the Hudson, attracted, at the close of the past, and during the first quarter of the present century, a number of emigrants from Norwalk. These were an element of strength in the new city, and contributed, in no small measure, to its waxing prosperity. Bouton, Cannon, Craft, Kellogg, and Warren have been, and are names of influence and of dignity in Troy. Those who left Norwalk were kinsfolk, and, previous to their departure, were attached to St. Paul's. The parents (Esaias and Phebe Bouton) of several of these were of deserved reputation in their native parish. The father's (Esaias Bouton) descent is alluded to in a note on page forty, and his wife, who was from Massachusetts, was a descendant of one of the New England governors, (Hopkins), and bore the name (so the Norwalk relatives contended) of the governor's daughter, Phebe. This daughter married into a Massachusetts Bay family, one branch of which chose Norwalk for its home. Among the children of this branch was Phebe (Mrs. Esaias Bouton). They made large purchases of land in Norwalk. Moses Bixbee, one of the number, and a member of St. Paul's, invested to the amount of several thousand dollars in one plot. The original home was near the summit of Flax Hill, and perhaps no better fruit was ever grown in the county than that which grew in the orchards which belonged to this home. Esaias Bouton, a not remote neighbor, married Phebe, a daughter. Eliakim Warren from the same vicinity, married their (Esaias and Phebe Bouton's) daughter. These were the two (Eliakim and Phebe Warren), who were the parents of the Warren family of Troy. The husband (St. Paul's vestryman who has before been alluded to) was the first church warden in Troy, and his excellent wife took a deep interest in church matters, and was unremitting in efforts to insure the success of the earliest parish planted in the thriving city of their adoption.

The Cannon and Craft ancestors, as before mentioned, were among the most respected and reliable of St. Paul's early members. LeGrand Cannon and Mrs. Moses Craft were brother and sister, and went to Troy about the same time. They were children of Samuel, and grandchildren of Commodore Cannon. The brother married a daughter of Nathan Bouton, and sister of Mrs. Nathan Warren, of Troy. The children of LeGrand Cannon were the late Mrs. John B. Tibbitts and the present Mrs. George H. Cramer, of Troy, and LeGrand B. Cannon, and Mrs. George Bird, of New York. The children of Mrs. Moses Craft were the late Mrs. Sarah Murray, of New York, and the late Mrs. O. Parish Ogden, and the present Mrs. Hannibal Green, of Troy. The parents attended the mother St. Paul's of Troy, as the Warrens, and Boutons, and Kelloggs did; and, their pews in the church being in proximity to each other, they pleasantly, among themselves, designated the portion of the edifice occupied by them, as "Norwalk." The grandchildren of Eliakim and Phebe Warren, now living, are: Doctor Nathan B. Warren and his brother Stephen, who reside upon the Mount Ida estate, and their brother, George Henry, whose residence is in New York City, and Hon. Joseph M. Warren, and his brother, John Hobart Warren, of Troy.

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SUPPLEMENTAL INDEX.

Several of the errors noted on the succeeding page (page one hundred and fifteen) have been subsequently corrected.

Page seventeen, note four, instead of "1,600 have" read "1,600 funerals had, etc."

Page eighteen, Dr. Kemper note, line thirty, instead of "only two months," read "only ten months."

Page fifty-five, lower note, last line, instead of "books" read "brooks."

The last statement in note five, page sixty-seven, is incorrect. The first church, which was afterward converted into a parsonage, was burned in 1779. A second parsonage was erected. In 1809, there was an 'old house' which stood back of the parsonage of 1806. This (old parsonage probably) was given, by the parish, to Rev. Mr. Whitlock.

Page one hundred and twenty-four, middle paragraph, instead of "(page ninety)" read "(page ninety-one.)"

and that Dr. Samuel Perry, of Norwalk sprang from. (Richard Perry was the founder; Nathaniel was Richard Perry's son, and Joseph was the son of Nathaniel. Joseph [grandson of Richard] was the ancestor of the Norwalk and Ridgefield Perrys, and, on the mother's side, of the Norwalk and Troy Cannons).

Isaac and Mabel (Perry) Marquand were the parents of Henry and Frederick Marquand, one of whom has erected the Yale chapel which bears the family name.

The Dimon family into which Goold Hoyt married, was another Fairfield family of worth, and between it, also and the Perry family there was intermarriage.

At the close of the Isaacs paragraph, on page eighty-six, it is incorrectly intimated that Grace, the last daughter of Ralph Isaacs, Sr., was foremother of the New Haven Ingersolls. The correct statement would be (see erratta) that Grace, the daughter of Ralph Isaacs, Jr., was the Ingersoll ancestress. The youngest son of Ralph Isaacs, Sr., "merchant or trader" of Norwalk, and head of the warden-line of St. Paul's parish, took his father's name, and to him was bequeathed, after the parent's occupancy of it, the home establishment. This son inherited the Isaacs South Norwalk property, also, which latter was afterward transferred to the wife of Dr. Timothy Dwight, president of Yale College from 1795 to 1817. This lady was a granddaughter of Ralph Isaacs, Sr. Mr. Isaacs' second daughter, Esther, married Benjamin Woolsey, of Long Island; and Benjamin and Esther Woolsey had two daughters. One of these daughters, Mary, married Dr. Dwight, and the other, Sarah, married Moses Rogers. Dr. Dwight and Moses Rogers, therefore, were brothers-in-law. Their families became separated during the Revolutionary War, the former having removed to the provinces, and the latter residing in the cultivated and charming home (now the residence of Frederick Bronson, Esq.) on Greenfield Hill. Both Mary and Sarah Woolsey were remembered by legacies of equal amounts in their grandfather's will. Mr. Isaacs made generous and judicious bequests. To his widow he left a handsome amount in cash, and the income from an equal amount. Grace, the youngest child, and yet in her teens, was the recipient of several thousands, also. Benjamin and Ralph, Jr. were constituted executors of the estate, and made residuary legatees. The former, the distinguished free mason, died not long thereafter and, was

buried in St. Paul's yard, and the latter removed to New Haven County. He named his two daughters after, it is probable, his mother, Mary, and his sister, Grace. Grace (daughter of Ralph, Jr.,) married Jonathan Ingersoll, father of the New Haven Ingersolls, and it is possible that her sister, Mary, may have been the Mary Isaacs who married Timothy Jerome, not of the Jerome family of the state of New York, one of the members of which married into the old Reed family of Norwalk, but of that family which is represented by Thomas Spencer Jerome, Esq., now of Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Benjamin Rumsey, of Fairfield, the father-in-law of Ralph Isaacs, Sr., had a son, Joseph, and, it would appear, a son Benjamin, also. His daughter, Mary, Mrs. Ralph Isaacs, Sr., who rests in the church yard, was great-great-grandmother of the present president of Yale College, Timothy Dwight. D.D., LL.D., grandson of Yale's first president of the same name.

The Norwalk Isaacs descendants are under the impression that there were two distinct families of settlers of that name in this land, and they are unquestionably correct in this particular. Joseph Isaacs, the first settler, appeared here as early as 1636. He died May 11th, 1642, leaving, Elizabeth a widow. She afterward married Nicholas Davis. There was a passenger to America, in 1634, in one of the Ipswich ships, by the name of Rebecca Isaacs. She was thirty-four years of age, and is supposed to have been sister of the first Joseph. There was also a Thomas Isaacs, a merchant in Boston, in 1672. A genealogist of the past writes thus: There is a "family of this name (Isaacs) at Norwalk, honorary in several generations, but it is believed their pedigree on this side of the ocean must not be found before the eighteenth century." There was an Isaac Isaacs who graduated at Yale, in 1750, and a Ralph, in 1761, and a Benjamin, in 1781, and a Ralph, in 1784. The first two were, possibly, Ralph, Sr's., sons, and the last two, his grandsons.

Mrs. Samuel Isaacs (Mary Brown) mentioned on page eighty-seven, was granddaughter of John Ruscoe. The history of the Ruscoes, to which attention seems now to be directed, is one of interest. James Brown, the settler, married John Ruscoe's daughter. Lieutenant William Lees married another daughter (Mahetabel). John Abbott married Ruth Ruscoe, and Sarah married a Ridgefield Rockwell.

THE DESCENDANTS

of

JACOB SEBOR

1709–1793

of

MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT

1923